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1830

CENTENNIAL YEAR

1930

The Dream Prophecy of King Nebuchadnezzar and its Fulfilment—God's Kingdom of the Latter Days.

*Address Delivered at the One Hundredth Annual Conference of the Church, by
President Rudger Clawson, of the Council of the Twelve.*

My brethren and sisters: This is an historic occasion. In view of the great celebration of the centenary of the Church now in progress, my thoughts of late have turned to the prophecies of old. Many of the predictions of the ancient prophets have been fulfilled to the letter so far as time has gone, others are in process of fulfilment.

I am reminded of a very remarkable incident that occurred in the very early years of the earth's history. This incident has been briefly referred to by my brethren who have already spoken, but I have been looking at it from a little different angle.

It would seem that Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, dreamed a dream which made a profound impression upon his mind, but strange to say, upon awakening, he was unable to recall the dream, and the interpretation thereof. So he called for the wise men of Babylon, the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers and the Chaldeans, and he commanded them to bring back his dream and give the interpretation thereof. If they would do this he promised them gifts and rewards. But if they failed he warned them that they would be cut to pieces and destroyed.

They said to him, "O king, live forever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew thee the interpretation."

The king said, "The thing is gone from me."

An Unusual Request.

Thereupon the wise men were very much agitated, and they said to him:

O king, thou hast required of us an unusual thing. There is no man upon the earth who can show the king this matter. It is only the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh, that can bring back your dream.

For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and sent forth a decree that the wise men of Babylon should be destroyed.

This was a very critical time for Daniel, the young Hebrew prophet, and his three brethren who were numbered among the wise men of Babylon. Daniel sought an interview with the king and pled with him for further time, saying that he would get the interpretation of his dream. His request was granted.

The King's Dream Made Known.

Now, mark you, by the prayer of faith the king's dream was made known to Daniel of the Lord, and the interpreta-

tion was given. Once more Daniel was conducted before the king and he said to him:

We will bring back your dream, O king, and we will give you the interpretation thereof.

And so he said:

Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee, and the form thereof was terrible.

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass.

His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

And then, the prophet said:

Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

The Interpretation.

He said:

Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field, and the fowls of the heaven, hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron.

This fourth kingdom was represented by the feet and toes of iron and of clay.

Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

And he said further:

And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

The Fulfilment.

The Christian world of today is witness of the fact that the very things which the great image stood for have occurred so far as time has gone. History certifies to the fact that King Nebuchadnezzar was the head of gold. The Medes and Persians, an inferior kingdom to Babylon, were the arms and breast of silver. The Macedonian kingdom, under Alexander the Great, was the belly and thighs of brass; and the Roman kingdom under the Caesars was the legs of iron. For, mark you, later on the kingdom, or empire of Rome, was divided. The head of the government in one division was at Rome and the head of the government in the other division was at Constantinople. So these two great divisions represented the legs of iron. Finally, the Roman empire was broken up into smaller kingdoms, represented by the feet and toes of iron and clay, and as there were ten toes on the image, we might well conclude that the following ten kingdoms

stand to represent the toes: Italy, established in 496 A.D.; France, in 753; England, 853; Germany, 806, Holland, 922; Portugal, 1138; Persia, 1139; Austria-Hungary, 1159; Spain, 1171; Greece, 1829 A.D.

The Stone Cut Out of the Mountain.

The stone cut out of the mountain without hands, representing the kingdom of God, was established April 6, 1830, with six members, and is known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Thus the work of the Lord in our own time, designated by revelation as a marvelous work and a wonder, had a very humble beginning, but it has grown apace. Today the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has a membership of about 700,000. It cost the best blood of the nineteenth century to establish this work on the earth. Its founder, the Prophet Joseph Smith, and his brother Hyrum Smith, the Patriarch, were martyred for the cause of truth, in Carthage, Illinois, in 1844. The Latter-day Saints have passed through the fire of persecution and have stood the test of one hundred years. Never was the prospect brighter for our people than it is today. We sincerely believe, and, I may say, have every assurance, that this Church will stand forever. It is indeed the Church of the Son of God, the Redeemer of mankind.

Its Organization.

Within its organization will be found a line of general authorities, consisting of a First Presidency of three, a council of Twelve Apostles, a Presiding Patriarch, a First Council of Seventy and a Presiding Bishopric. There are in the Church also numerous quorums of High Priests, Seventies, Elders, Priests, Teachers, and Deacons, by which and through which

the affairs of the Church are conducted and the Gospel preached to the saints and to the world and the ordinances of the Gospel administered for the salvation of souls.

For the knowledge I have and of which I humbly testify that Jesus is the Christ, and that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God, I am truly thankful and feel to praise the Lord.

God bless you, my brethren and sisters. God bless the people of the Latter-day Saints, and prosper his work, and bless those who preside over and direct the affairs of his Church is my prayer, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

As the Compass Points.

*By Dr. John A. Widtsoe, President
European Missions.*

During the last twenty years, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has more than doubled its membership. So says the British Press, basing its report upon a survey recently completed by the Institute of Social and Religious Research. And more interesting to the Press, only three other large denominations have grown during the same period at a similar rate, none among the older and better known churches.

The author of the study "The U.S. Looks At Its Churches," Dr. C. Luther Fry, ponders the significant fact that non-traditional religious groups, such as the Latter-day Saints, have enjoyed the most rapid growth in this period of universal enlightenment. He concludes that fundamental changes must have entered into the religious thinking of humanity—at least in America.

The real change is that men demand

truth as never before, and insist on knowing the truth for themselves. Superstition has had its day. The blind following of priestly authority has been laid low. A muzzled God is becoming an impossible conception. Something that comports more nearly with the human understanding must be found.

Men can comprehend the latter-day message. The vision of a Gospel for man's good, to-day and forever, is clear. The law of cause and effect in the spiritual as in the material world makes religion understandable. The right of free agency under eternal law gives man a new self-respect. The meaning and possibilities of human brotherhood, if all are literal children of God, direct efforts for human betterment. And a church that speaks with authority, yet rules by common consent, answers to the call of the spirit.

The findings and conclusions of this elaborate religious survey point to the religious future of the world. Man-made churches have failed to satisfy the soul's demands. Humanity, hungry for the bread of life, are seeking food elsewhere. Knowledge, certain and demonstrable, must replace emotional excitement as a means of spiritual revival.

The growth of the Latter-day Saints in the face of bitter and unrelenting opposition such as no other church has had to endure, is the most remarkable thing about these statistics. Human history implies that only truth possesses such vitality.

Truth is not established by numbers; it is truth, though none accept it; yet, truth will prevail, for it is the only imperishable thing.

Latter-day Saints look calmly into the future, knowing well the ultimate victory of truth.

Haun's Mill Massacre.

A Brief Example of Early Mormon Persecutions. Extract from Relief Society Manual, European Missions.

Several Latter-day Saint families, en route from Kirtland, Ohio, to Far West, Missouri, stopped for the night at Haun's Mill. They were travelling in peace and minding their own business, but had been detained several times by armed forces. On October 30, 1838, a marauding band of 300 men swooped on these saints at Haun's Hill and enacted a crime of blood and carnage beyond description. The brethren, crying for "quarter," sought refuge in the blacksmith shop, while the sisters and children fled midst a shower of bullets into the woods. One girl was shot through the hand and fell over a log, the mob continuing to pour bullets through the portion of her dress which protruded above the log, thinking they were hitting her body. The mobbers plundered goods, drove off cattle, and inhumanly butchered seventeen men and wounded thirteen others. What a scene! One old man was literally cut to pieces with a corn cutter as he pleaded for his life. A little boy begged for mercy, but a fiend blew out his brains. A sister hid her husband under a pile of leaves.

About this bloody tragedy Sister Amanda Smith, an eye-witness, says:—O! what a horrible sight! My husband and one of my sons lay lifeless upon the ground, and another son, wounded and bleeding . . . and the ground all covered with the dead and dying. . . . My husband had on a new pair of calf-skin boots, and they were taken off him by one who afterwards made his brags that he "pulled a d—d Mormon's boots off his feet while he was kicking."

It was sunset when the mob left and we crawled back to see and comprehend the extent of our misery. . . . A dozen helpless widows grieving for their

husbands, who lay cold and insensible around them. . . . I knew not but at any moment the mob might return to complete their dreadful work. All through the night I heard the groans of the sufferers, and once in the dark we groped our way over the heap of dead in the blacksmith shop to try to soothe the wants of those who had been mortally wounded, and who lay so helpless among the slain.

Next morning Joseph Young helped the stricken sisters cast the bodies of their dead husbands into a deep, dry well, because there were not enough survivors to bury them. They were given no burial rites. All were thrown in except Sister Smith's son, Sardius. But Brother Young could not throw one so fair into this ghastly pit. Sister Smith continues:

"O, they have left my Sardius unburied in the sun," I cried, and ran and covered his body with a sheet . . . and then I, his own mother, horrible to relate . . . threw him into this rude vault with the others, and covered them with straw and earth.

Settlement of Nauvoo.

After they had been driven from the state of Missouri, the saints found refuge in the state of Illinois. Three months later Joseph and Hyrum Smith escaped from Liberty Gaol and joined their families at Quincy, Illinois, on April 22, 1839. Committees had been appointed to locate and buy land for the saints, but came to no definite terms. Some distance up the Mississippi River was a small settlement, an insignificant village with only six houses, called Commerce. Here the Prophet bought tracts of land from Hugh White and Dr. Isaac Galland, on long time notes. Here the leaders decided to locate the headquarters of the Church. Though the site was marshy the location was beautiful, and the saints moved there practically in a body. They began to build anew, drained the fever-ridden

swamp lands and converted them into a fit habitation. The name Commerce was changed to Nauvoo, meaning beauty and rest.

(Note: Chicago was first settled in 1833. In 1839 Nauvoo became a much larger city. Both were the largest western cities at that time, but the vacant expanse of the plains and deserts and mountains for hundreds of miles awaited the Mormons, who later claimed the west from its uncivilized state.)

Illness in the camps: But the people were not without their trials. Wilford Woodruff says: It was a very sickly time (when the refugees from Missouri first arrived at Commerce, on the site of the future city of Nauvoo) and Joseph had given up his home in Commerce to the sick, and had a tent pitched in his doorway and was living in that himself. The large number of saints who had been driven out of Missouri were flocking into Commerce, but had no homes to go into and were living in wagons, in tents, and on the ground. Many, therefore, were sick through the exposure they were subjected to. Brother Joseph had waited on the sick, until he was worn out and nearly sick himself.

On the morning of July 22, 1839, he arose reflecting upon the situation of the saints of God in their persecutions and afflictions, and he called upon the Lord in prayer, and the power of God rested upon him mightily, and as Jesus healed all the sick around Him in His day, so Joseph, the Prophet of God, healed all around on this occasion.

If thou wilt do good, yea, and hold out faithful to the end, thou shalt be saved in the kingdom of God, which is the greatest of all the gifts of God; for there is no gift greater than the gift of salvation.—*Doctrine and Covenants* 6:13.

Be Fruitful and Multiply.

By JOSEPH S. PEERY.

The first great commandment of the Lord is: "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth." (Gen. 1:28.) A married couple who refuse to have children disobey God's first commandment, and will have intense regrets both in this life and in the life to come. In advancing years, to see others have the joy of children in their homes that they might have had will be punishment in this world. In the next life, how can they face their Maker and explain their refusal to aid Him in populating the earth? Then in sorrow and regret they will know the full meaning of the words:

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these, it might have
been."

Delays are dangerous. Mrs. David Harold Peery, says: "A young couple who delay having children often bring a curse on them so that the wife gets in a condition whereby she cannot have children. If she obeys God's commandment and willingly has children, appreciating this great blessing as a gift from God, the Lord will help her provide for those children and she will make a much better success than the woman who refuses the blessing of motherhood.

Unfortunately there are some couples who are anxious to have children, but this blessing is withheld from them. Such a couple can have this joy by taking another's child into their home and hearts. They make the child happy and thereby they become happy. They receive the joys of parenthood. They took a child of God and reared it in all care and tenderness. They will receive the compensation of good works and learn the full meaning of the words:

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 26:40.)

Edison—Cobb Denounce Cigarettes.

We are very anxious that our children shall grow intellectually, physically and morally. Perhaps the greatest benefactor to mankind at the present time is Thomas A. Edison (the inventor of the modern electric light). I stood on a mountain behind Hollywood one night some time ago and saw the electric lights blazing for a distance of twenty-five miles, one of the most splendid sights in an evening that I have ever seen, and all of it due to the genius of Thomas A. Edison, who wrote in a letter to Henry Ford:

"The injurious agent in cigarettes comes principally from the burning paper wrapper. The substance thereby formed is called 'Acrolein.' It has a violent action on the nerve centres, producing degeneration of the cells of the brain, which is quite rapid among boys. Unlike most narcotics, this degeneration is permanent and uncontrollable. I employ no person who smokes cigarettes.

"THOS. A. EDISON."

* * * * *

Ty Cobb is given the credit for being the greatest baseball player in his day. He has become too old now to play baseball, and I think has been released. Among other things he says:

"Too much cannot be said against the evils of cigarette smoking. It stupefies the brain, saps vitality, undermines one's health, and lessens the moral fibre of the man. No boy who hopes to be successful in any line can afford to contract a habit that is so detrimental to his physical and moral development.

The alert brain, the strong body, and the moral stamina necessary for the success in any line of endeavour are weakened and destroyed by the cigarette habit; and young men should realise its disastrous effects."

Extracts from a discourse by Heber J. Grant, President of the Mormon Church.

Comment Paragraphs.

All missionaries are doing excellent work. Just a little closer huing to the line of each missionary putting out ten Books of Mormon per month and we will see great growth in this mission. Many missionaries will follow us and will reap where we sow. Seeds do not mature in a few days.

People must be converted to Mormonism before they will get baptized.

If members are truly converted they will live the gospel.

If any one is converted and is contemplating baptism, let them help make this year the banner year of the South African Mission and become baptized before November 25, 1930, as our records close for the year 1930 on December 1, and the District records close on Nov. 25. Things look good, you help them look better, by joining the church and living up to its teachings. Why procrastinate doing good? Get baptised during this centennial year.

It is surprising the good the Relief Society Sisters are doing. Many sisters who live away from organized branches are sending in for material to make into something to be sold. Helping in different ways. Sending money, clothes, fancy work, food, and with that added to the increasing accomplishments of those who work in organized branches, the charity funds are increasing, more poor are given aid and Everybody is working. Yes! it is our Motto: "Work for Everybody and Everybody Working." God bless our Relief Society sisters. Their work is not flaunted before men, but the poor and needy, sick and sorrowed will sing their praises before the Master.*

It makes no difference whether you

are a member of the church or not you may become a member of our Relief Society. A Society organized to systematically take care of those who are distressed. One of their aims is to help the poor and needy out of their bad condition, help them to help themselves. Not to give them money to squander, but to give them work, food and clothing and ascertain their true needs and assist them where possible "to Work out instead of Rust out."

It seems like the Centennial year has brought lots of love into the hearts of most members. Many taking part on the conference programs. Hundreds eating from the Centennial Cakes made by loving hands and given by families for the pleasure and happiness of all. Members bearing testimonies and relating the incident and thing which first attracted them to the church has made all relive that part of their lives which is dear to their memories and which has caused tears of joy to flow from many an eye in this mission the past few months.

When I was baptised, it seemed like coming out of a bath after a long and dusty journey. Ivy Spear.

◆

If those people who say they are not naturally religious had done as little to develop their intellectual capacity as they have to develop their spiritual capacity, they would be accused of not being naturally intelligent.

* * * * *

"I have seen many dying beds, but never have I seen one which seemed to me to be a proper place to make preparation for eternity." —*Alfred Barnes.*

* * * * *

When you have recreation, have it so that you won't have to spell it Wreck-Creation.

MISSIONARY THOUGHTS.

BELIEF AND ACTION.

By ELDER KENNETH SUTHERLAND,
Transvaal District.

A class of people may be found in the world to-day who delight to moralise, especially upon religion. Say they: "It is not what a man professes that really counts, it is what he does." Observing probably a lack of real Christian spirit in orthodox Christianity, they would fain denounce all churches and creeds in particular as unnecessary. Is such a denunciation justified? The failure to apply a truth does not in any way affect the reality of that truth. The individual may believe and yet not apply. Yet belief is a necessary precedent to faith and action. Belief, Faith, Knowledge are stepping stones in the Gospel plan of progression.

The one who voluntarily adheres to any creed must have the sincere disposition to conform his life to the truth in his belief. The truth at hand with the desire to apply the same will determine, to a large extent, the manner of man that shall be.

Correct principles must be taught to derive the fullest benefit. Let me relate. Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet, asked how it was that he could handle so admirably such a composite people as the Latter-day Saints, he replied in substance: "We teach them correct principles and they govern themselves." The harmonious and congenial relationship existing among this people was the outcome of their belief.

We develop according to the proportion of truth in our creed and the faithful application of it. Belief and action are two inseparable realities. We believe before we apply.

Spiritual development is relative, depending largely on the extent and realization of the truth possessed. Relative progression may be observed among the so-called Heathen or non-Christian

peoples. Who can doubt but what the teachings of the Koran, the Philosophy of Buddah or the sagacious and inspired utterances of Confucius were not in a degree beneficial to these people in their unenlightened state. Their belief will, of course, have a corresponding action. We have all that responsibility to live according to the light we possess or the light which opportunity affords us to possess.

Man is frail and does not always conform his actions to his reason. The necessity for grace, or spiritual power, is obvious, and may be received by all through an acknowledgment of the Deity and a conformity to the laws and requirements of the Gospel. Upon Latter-day Saints rests a special responsibility. God's truth, the fullness of the Gospel, has been given to them with the power to apply the same. By faithful application of our belief great blessings may be obtained both here and hereafter.

Bearing His Burden.

By Elder A. K. Berry, Natal District.

He suffered and stumbled.

They sorrowed and wept.

They loved Him and wondered,

And after Him crept.

He bore his own burden

While lingering on;

'Till Simon, A stranger

His cross bore along.

We love Him and preach Him,

His name we revere,

But are we as they were

When danger is near?

Do we leave His burden

For strangers to bear?

He calls for more "Simon's,"

Can we be found there?

The Lord is forgiving

Let's prove to Him how;

That we, His disciples

His cross carry now.

DESCENT OF THE PRIESTHOOD.

By ELDER CLARE B. CHRISTENSEN,
President, Transvaal District.

Father Adam was the first man on earth to hold the Priesthood, and there is an unbroken chain of its descent from him to the present-day Priesthood-holders. There were periods when the Priesthood was not upon the earth, but with each restoration the last former holder returned as a heavenly messenger to bestow the same authority and complete the succession.

At first the Priesthood was conferred from father to son. Adam lived to see Methuselah, his fifth-great-grandson, become a High Priest (D. & C. 107). All the Patriarchs to Lamech were living previous to Adam's death (930 after Eden). Methuselah lived until 1656, after Eden, the year of the flood. Lamech's son, Noah, carried the Priesthood through the flood period, and it descended in much the same manner to Abraham—the father's lives greatly overlapping the sons'. Noah himself outlived his eighth-great-grandson, Haran (Abraham's brother), the latter dying at the age of 56 (about 1995 after Eden; compare Gen. 11:28 with Abr. 2:1, P. of G.P.).

Here the Priesthood descent detours from the genealogical line via Esaias, Gad, Jeremy, Elihu, Caleb and Jethro (Moses' father-in-law) to Moses (D. & Co. 84). Isaac, Jacob and Joseph held it, but it was not had among Israel in Egypt.

When Moses died, he took certain priestly keys which were not conferred upon his successor—Elijah—likewise. The lesser Priesthood continued until John the Baptist (D. & C. 84:25, 26).

Jesus, Moses and Elias conferred powers upon Peter, James and John (Matt. 17, 3, 4) and these in turn upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, as also did John the Baptist.

Moses and Elijah came in 1836 and restored the Keys of the Gathering of Israel and of the Gospel for the Dead (D. & C. 110). All the brethren holding the Priesthood to-day have received it through that source, consequently all have received it through Adam.

Smith-Wright-Taylor arrives.

Cumorah was agreeably surprised Tuesday evening October 21, when in walked Elder John Henry Smith of Salt Lake City, accompanied by Elder Evan Pettit Wright of Salt Lake and Elder Clarence D. Taylor of Provo, Utah. The last named elders made themselves right at home, because their companion Elder Smith was at home and they felt they should act like he did. Elder Smith is a son of former Mission President Nicholas G. Smith and was with his father for over seven years while President Smith presided over this mission. To say greetings to these fine young men would be only a start to the welcome we all have in our hearts for them. May their joy in accomplishment be equal to the joy we have in greeting them to this mission and with the spirit of love for each other, may we all labor in the cause of our Maker to the advancement of His glorious cause in South Africa.

The kind of a time some people call a good time is a time when they haven't time to be good.

* * * *

A drinker couldn't quit, because he hadn't the manhood left to conquer the habit.

* * * *

It is akin to wickedness to be blessed of the Lord and then forget Him.

MISSION NEWS.

Cape District.

"Cumorah," Main and Grove Roads, Mowbray: Elder Vern D. Greene, District President.

One of the new investigators of this District, Mrs. A. Fourie, Roodebloem Road, Woodstock, kindly allowed the Mutual Improvement Association to hold a party at her home. There was a good attendance of saints and friends and a very enjoyable evening was spent in games and music. This Association has been busy keeping the young people alive this month. A Tennis Tournament was held when the young men of the Branch played against the Lord Milner Club on "Cumorah's" court—this was a return match and our club was beaten by only 3 games—it was a very close thing. Three of the Elders were able to participate, they were Clarence E. Randall, Vern D. Greene and Reuben H. M. Dix-Peek and it was a good opportunity to tell these new friends something about the "Mormons," which they made use of. The other feature was the splendid concert put on, with some of the best talent of Cape Town on the programme. The organizers were hard pressed in fixing seating accommodation for the huge crowd that came, seldom has the little Mission Hall been so sorely taxed for space. Needles to say a substantial sum was added to the Mutual Funds.

It is pleasing to report that people who are in doubt about finding "Cumorah" at night will have no difficulty now. A fine electric sign has been erected on the building which is easily seen from the street.

Pres. Vern D. Greene returned unexpectedly from his Rhodesian missionary

trip at the beginning of October looking very fit. He was able to give a good report of his travels and let his companions marvel at the wonderful pictures of the Victoria Falls and Zimbabwe Ruins.

The Branch has been busy preparing for its Conference commencing October 26. Everybody is looking forward to the return of President and Sister Dalton, after 5 months tour of the Mission Field.

Transvaal District.

No. 395, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg: Elder Clare B. Christensen, District President.

Sixty investigators at the Jubilee Meeting, Saturday Sept. 27; one capacious and delicious seven-layer Centennial cake; the baptism of Sister Anna Ganter, wife of Brother George Ganter; the baptism of Sister Maud Van Eyssen, together with six spirited meetings, Sunday, Sept. 28, were just a few of the events which combined to put joy into the hearts of the multitude attending the recent Transvaal Semi-Annual District Conference.

The Relief Society Officers were released with a hearty vote of thanks for their splendid services, and Elders Clare B. Christensen and Kenneth Y. Stringham sustained as president and secretary. The former officers were Sisters Mary E. Vice, Mary Kruger, Myra Forbes and Hester Jenkins.

With considerable pride the Transvaal District also announces the setting apart of Elder L. G. Muir to be a part time missionary, and Elder A. G. Brummer, full time missionary, making four missionaries now in the field from Johannesburg.

In course of a hurried visit to the

saints and friends of Pretoria, Sept. 25, Brother George Roghaar kindly accommodated President Dalton and Elder Stringham by taking them about in his automobile to visit our members.

All were sorry to lose President and Sister Dalton, who left for Kimberley, Sept. 29, after a two months visit in this district. Brother John Walsh, who has also spent a welcome visit in Johannesburg, left on the same train.

Fully 75 different persons took some part on the conference programs, which clearly shows that our motto, "Work for Everybody and Everybody Working," is materializing.

Elder Stringham: How do you spell piano—pieano? Elder Christensen: No! peano.

* * *

Port Elizabeth.

No. 23, Chapel Street, Port Elizabeth; Elder L. Winslow Hurst, District President.

Undaunted by cloudy weather and recent rain storms, members of Port Elizabeth Branch met at Humewood Beach on the afternoon of Wiener's Day, Oct. 6. During the afternoon and evening a great variety of games was played. A full moon in the evening, as a climax, made the picnic very much of a success, and it was a happy, but tired and stiff group that left the picnic grounds late that evening.

The Relief Society Bazaar took place as planned, October 4. Saints and friends donated many fine articles, but the complete success of the gala event was particularly damped by a heavy rain storm which lasted most of the afternoon and evening.

Two trips were made to Uitenhage by the elders, during the months. All saints,

friends and investigators were visited and many donated splendid articles for the Bazaar.

On Sept. 16, Elder Thomas Y. Wilson left for East London, following the arrival of Elder L. Winslow Hurst, who has been appointed District President.

As each new elder comes into the district he is immediately trained in the finer points of Domestic Science, so declares Elder Hurst. Elder Robert John Evans the latest arrival, is now well embarked in this "glorious adventure." He reports that he has already advanced to the stage where he can accomplish such baffling operations as boiling eggs, making a cup of postum and even boiling water without burning himself. "The sole compensation occurs either upon consummation or consumption, I'm not sure which," he related, adding that, "a bachelor's life is not all bliss" or good cooking either, some one else added.

Two pageants and a number of other worth-while events are being prepared enthusiastically by the saints and elders for District Conference, October 15 to 20.

Mr. and Sister Russell have generously offered accommodations to President and Sister Dalton during their stay in Port Elizabeth.

* * * *

Bloemfontein District.

No. 154, Monument Road, Bloemfontein: Elder Clarence B. Spear, District President.

Bloemfontein District Conference held October 3, 4, and 5, reflected a splendid spirit of co-operation through-out the district with particularly good work on the part of the local officers under whose direction the work is going forward. President and Sister Dalton and two sons arrived Friday P.M. and an officer's and

teacher's report meeting followed at the home of District President and Sister Spear. Strong interest by the saints is being maintained in all auxiliaries.

At Relief Society Conference, held Saturday afternoon, it was shown that the organization had every active member of the Branch enrolled, with an average attendance of 83 per cent. and a strong financial position. Sister Geneve J. Dalton, president of the Mission Relief Societies, commented favourably on the movement to co-operate with other similar organizations.

Through the courtesy of Captain P. F. White, assistant District Commissioner of the Bloemfontein Boy Scouts, the Scouts Hall was furnished free of charge for the remaining meetings of the conference. At the Social, Saturday evening under the auspices of the M.I.A. President Alex S. Greenberg had a program of music, songs and games arranged, all of which was greatly enjoyed by the saints and friends.

Sunday School Conference, under the direction of Supt. Sam J. Greenberg, included talks on the Melchizedek and Aaronic Priesthood, and vocal solos, quartettes and other musical items, besides a report on Sunday School work and its history. During the afternoon a testimony meeting of strong faith-promoting powers was enjoyed. At the concluding and general session, an inspiring address was given by Mission President Dalton. District President Spear made a comparative report of the district with last year.

If we found where God came from, or reached the end, then to know what was beyond that would be the problem before us.

Kimberley District.

No. 34a, Old De Beers Road, Kimberley:
Elder Herman J. Smith, District President.

More people participated in the last District Conference, September 30 to October 3, than ever before. Special features of the three sessions of conference held with President and Sister Dalton were the big Centennial layer cake, presentation of the pageant, "Eternal Womanhood" and the baptism of three new members, while everywhere the workings of the Mission slogan, "Work for Everybody and Everybody Working" gave cause for rejoicing.

The new members are Brother Martin Gerhardus Muller and Sister Mary Gertie Muller, who were baptized by District President Smith, and Sister Winifred Maud Harvey, who was baptized by Elder William H. Brummer.

A profitable day's tracting was spent by Elders Smith and Brummer, at Ronald's Vlei, September 10.

Brother and Sister N. B. Bolleurs and daughters Nellie and Dolly and Mr. Eric Partridge went to Johannesburg for a week's holiday, September 13. Brother Bolleurs and Mr. Partridge spent the following week on a farm about 75 miles from Kimberley.

Sister Florence E. Spear of Bloemfontein paid the Kimberley Relief Society a visit, September 24 and 25, which proved very beneficial.

Sister Janetta E. S. Brummer our lady missionary has been appointed Kimberley Relief Society president. Things look good for Kimberley. Many investigators, lots of friends and a general good feeling with everyone.

East London.

No. 95, St. George's Road, East London; Elder
Thomas Y. Wilson, District President.

After a two year's stay at Estcourt, Mr. and Sister Doyle and family are now living in the vicinity of East London. Saints and friends are very pleased to welcome them to East London.

An enjoyable outing on the farm of Brother and Sister Futter was enjoyed on Wiener's Day by elders and saints. Mr. Venter kindly furnished his lorry for two pleasant trips with elders and saints to the Futter farm and to the Doyle home at Nahoon.

Lots of fun, plenty of glee, a lovely Centennial cake, a splendid program, many children and everyone happy to be there, made the Centennial party at brother and sister Charles H. Jubber's home, one long to be remembered.

A fine spirit, many taking part, two pageants, "Eternal Womanhood" and "The Gospel Story" and recitations, solos, special music, prepared speeches and plenty to hold one's interest marked the last conference at East London as one of the best ever held in that District.

Some one started a little love going around in this District and it is making us all happy. May the Lord bless the one who started it, and may he help us keep it going. We find it a much nicer thing to keep going than some things that hurt others and do not profit anyone.

* * * *

Natal District.

No. 74, Cromwell Road, Durban: Elder
Clarence S. Barker, District President.

A record attendance of 44 at District Conference, Sunday September 21, two baptisms, a successful social, and a good Relief Society and Sunday School Con-

ference, were the order of the day during the visit of President Dalton to Durban, September 19 to 22.

The opening social, at the home of Mr. and Sister Moore, was graced by a particularly delicious Centennial layer cake, with one hundred candles, all generously provided by the members of the Relief Society. The cake was the first Centennial Cake ever made so far as The South African Mission is concerned.

Relief Society Conference held Friday evening September 19 at the home of Brother and Sister Hayden had a good attendance while much excellent sewing and other evidence of conscientious work by the sisters was shown. Speakers were President Dalton, Elder A. Kay Berry and several of the sisters.

Brother Bertie Leslie Hayden and Sister Lulu Magdalene Hayden, children of brother and sister Barney F. Hayden were baptized, Sunday, Sept. 21, at the Back Beach by District President Barker. At Sunday School Conference both the new members gave recitations after they were confirmed, while brother Arthur Fagan gave a brief report of the Sunday School work.

The remarks and capable assistance given by President Dalton at each of the meetings were greatly appreciated by all.

Visits with nearly all saints were enjoyed during his brief stay, by President Dalton. Thanks are due all for their generous hospitality, not forgetting Mr. and Sister Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Chisholm, in whose homes he stayed.

In spite of a heavy rain storm a very successful Relief Society party and postum sale was held, Wednesday, Oct. 8 in the home of Mr. and Sister Moore. Refreshments were generously provided by Sister Moore and all proceeds turned over to the Relief Society.

Rhodesia District.

Bulawayo, Post Restante; Elder George C. Maw,
District President.

In addition to lots of hot weather where icicles don't grow on trees; sharing the hospitality of many new friends; seeing the great Victoria Falls of the Zambezi River, with several crocodiles sunning themselves amidst the heavily-jungles banks; the great Zimbabwe ruins and so on, the three elders laboring in Rhodesia last month placed sixty Books of Mormon and a like number of subscriptions to "Cumorah's Southern Cross"—thus sowing many seeds for the furtherance of the gospel.

Their itinerary, during which they were received most kindly, included Mafeking, where the lecture on Ancient America was given most successfully and where Mr. and Mrs. Muller, new friends, entertained them; ten days tracting and the lecture at Bulawayo where new friends showed them points of interest by motor car, such as Cecil J. Rhodes' grave at Matopos; Livingstone; Wankies great coal producing section, where they visited Mr. and Sister Hardman; Shangani, where at the home of Brother and Sister Walter T. Jubber, they held two meetings; Gwelo, Fort Victoria and Salisbury.

Elder Geo. C. Maw, is now carrying on the work, with headquarters at Bulawayo, while Elder Vern D. Greene Mission Secretary, left Rhodesia, Sept. 30, and is now engaged in his regular duties at Cape Town. Elder Bertram C. Cutforth planned to embark at Beira on Oct. 18, stopping at Durban on the 22, and then proceeding to Cape Town where

he is to be released, and depart for America via Australia and his old home in New Zealand October 30.

President Maw reports he has already baptized two and prospects look bright for several others before long.

Along Life's Way.

*By Brother Arthur Fagan, a Priest,
Natal District.*

I do not ask for fame or wealth,
Along life's way;
Nor for unbroken health,
Or death's delay.
But that I may contented be,
To live a life of harmony.

Grant me the spirit of love and good will,
Along life's way;
That I may always do Thy will,
In work or play.
And that I may pursue with zest,
The joys of righteous achievement's
crest.

Lord give me strength to be kind and
just,
Along life's way;
To lead my children and have their trust,
So they should not stray.
That when I am called from mortal life,
I'll leave no memory of hate or strife.

There will always be those who criticise
those who do things.

* * * *

"There is no man that can serve as
well in the spirit without a body as he
can with a body." —S. O. Bennion.

* * * *

Repentance born of Godly sorrow is
rising from a human fall with divine
strength.

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